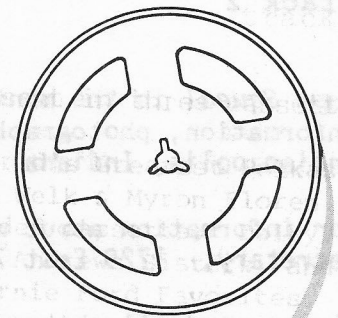


TAPE SQUEAL



INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.

Volume XXIII, Number 9 -- September, 1982

Every Night of the Year (Except Sunday)

Suave-Toned Willis Conover Beams....

"Big Jazz Behind the Iron Curtain"

The dapper man in the countdown above may be the world's favorite American. You have probably never heard of him, but the people in Warsaw and Moscow have. Broadcast over the largest international radio network, he presents no politics, no propaganda but the solid music of such VIP's as Jelly Roll Morton and the Modern Jazz Quartet. His name is Willis Clark Conover Jr., and he sits alone in a tiny white room in Washington, casually spinning tapes and talking jazz to the unseen millions who have made him their American cultural hero.

The Voice of America launched Willis Conover and *Music U.S.A.* over short-wave radio on January 6, 1955. "This was the first music the Voice broadcast after the McCarthy era," Conover notes, recalling some Congressional skepticism that jazz wasn't a commodity we should be particularly proud of. Powerful VOA relay stations in Tangier and later in Munich beamed the pilot programs toward the jazz-happy Scandinavian countries, only to receive a flood of letters from points East as far as Iran. The music is coming through great, they said, but at the craziest hours of the night. The Voice obliged by expanding *Music U.S.A.* all over the world each evening at the peak listening hours, to an estimated 30 million people in 80 countries.

As official herald of the U.S. Information Agency, the aim of VOA is to make the American view "intelligible,

even palatable." Conover's swinging program was considered a strategic drawing card, and was scheduled to precede and follow the critical evening news broadcast with 45 minutes of jazz-punctuated popular music and 45 minutes of straight jazz. Now, the rising volume of fan mail indicates that *Music U.S.A.* has become the Voice's most listened to program. Reporters and musicians in the de-Stalinized Soviet Union find young people everywhere hungry with questions about the most sophisticated modern jazz and a man named Conover.

"Good evening, this is Willis Conover," they recite to bewildered tourists, proudly practicing the only English they know, a copy of Conover's precise, mellifluous speech. Moscow black marketeers do a hot business in jazz records, taping VOA broadcasts, reproducing them on disks made from old X-ray plates (called "rocks on the bones"), bootlegging the disks for as much as 40 rubles (\$44) each.

"There is no doubt in my mind," says Harrison E. Salisbury, veteran correspondent of the *New York Times*, "that *Music U.S.A.* is the most popular presentation we make, at least so far as the Russians are concerned." Egypt's weekly *Al Izaa* stated succinctly: "Conover's daily program has won the United States more friends than any other activity."

Why this tremendous attraction to jazz? Because it's an informal, happy music," says Conover, "which one can

(continued on track 3)

Tape Squeal is the monthly newsletter of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB. Send all news information, photographs, etc. to: Sharon Moore, editor, 4215 North Oxford Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46205.

For information about membership in the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB contact: Eleanor Davies, secretary, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. Telephone (317)2517048.

Please send all changes of address and directory data to: Eleanor Davies, directory manager, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240.

Your INDIANA RECORDING CLUB Board of Directors consists of Dennis Burcher, Pres.; Bill Tillett, Vice-Pres.; Eleanor Davies, Secretary; John Oliver, Treasurer; and Bill Endicott and Gene Scott, Members.

TO ALL NEW MEMBERS (In the United States)

When you receive your welcoming tape please return the accompanying postcard to the committee chairman: William Kearney, 2625 West Jefferson Road, Kokomo, Indiana 46901.

ADDRESS CHANGES --all address changes MUST be sent to the Directory Manager at least one month before the effective date to ensure uninterrupted delivery of the Tape Squeal.

TRADING POST

Free notices for IRC members, concerning tape and related items to sell, buy, trade, etc.

Believe it or not, folks, there's nothing for Trading Post this month!!

Closing the Door

DID YOU EVER GET the feeling that you personally are holding the whole world together, that if you relax for a minute everything will go flying off into space?

Take the other night. I felt a draft, traced it and found the back door open. I was about to shut it, when I noticed that the outside light was on. The light revealed that the twin cellar doors were also open. I went outside and when I bent down to close the doors, I saw that one of the children had left a basement light on.

When I clattered down the steps to put out the light, I noticed that my cellar workroom light was also on. I walked back to get that one and discovered that a clock I was working on had stopped. I got it started, then found a puddle of water on the floor. I wiped it up, and on my way out I found that a dripping overhead

faucet was the source of the water.

I tightened the wheel, but the drip persisted. I traced the water line back to the nearest cut-off valve, closed it, and then replaced the washer on the faucet. I managed at the same time to open a small cut on my finger. I went back to the workroom for an adhesive strip. There was one left. I applied it, and then went upstairs and brought new adhesive patches down to the cellar for future emergencies.

I wasn't through yet. While in the bathroom I had noticed we were out of toilet paper, so I trudged up to the second-floor linen closet and dug out a roll. I was crossing the kitchen with the toilet paper when my wife asked, "Where have you been all evening?"

"Closing the back door," I explained.

—Arthur Roth in East Hampton, N.Y., *Star*

ANTI-THEFT: NEW ZEALAND STYLE

A recent filler in the T.S. suggested marking your tape equipment to ensure recovery in event of theft. R. N. CURTIS, of the New Zealand Tape Recording Club, wrote that they have the same problem there: too many "lightfingered persons" who take what isn't their's.

He was advised by the police to use a pen which is, actually, a miniature jackhammer and inscribes a code into the equipment. Ron suggests using license plate number or social security number, but scribing in an hidden spot.

Once the equipment is marked, records need to be made and maintained. Record the description of the article, along with a picture, the location of the coding, and what the code is. Keep records removed from the equipment and in a safe spot. Then, when and if the "lightfingers" get to your place, you'll be able to prove what was and wasn't yours.



DORIS B. OLIVER

WANTS

YOUR VOTE

FOR
PRESIDENT OF

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

DORIS OLIVER offers the following qualifications:

1. Has been a member of IRC for 10 years.
2. Has labored diligently (a few times) on tapes to blind IRC members.
3. Past President of Credit Womens International, Indianapolis Chapter.
4. Employed 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ years at Indiana National Bank, Indianapolis.
5. Married (to one man) 33 years and claims two 4-footed children.
6. Currently is acting liason between IRC and its Bank. (Translation: Messenger carrying deposits of club funds for Treasurer)
7. Promises to keep hands off of club funds in husband's (Treasurer) possession.

VOTE FOR DORIS IN '83



ENDICOTT FOR PRESIDENT

This is the first election in ten years in which there have been two nominees for an office. Also, the first time for a lady to run for IRC President.

We, the nominees for President, have been asked to write a little about ourselves and our qualifications.

I think most of you will remember me! I have been a member of the IRC since 1964. I served as IRC Treasurer in 1965 and was Music Librarian for four years. I was Vice President in 1971 and 1972. Elected IRC President in 1973/74.

At that time our constitution read that an office could be held for only two consecutive one year terms. Because it was becoming more difficult to get members to run for office, we amended the constitution in 1975 to read that an office could be held for two consecutive two years terms. I was asked to run again in 1976 and was IRC President until January, 1981. Oh! I almost forgot, I was also temporary Tape Squeal Editor for fifteen months.

I think we should all thank our present IRC President, Dennis Burcher, for the fine job he has done during the past two years.

I think one of the reasons I have enjoyed being an officer in our club is the other Board members and committee chairmen. These people are really dedicated IRC members. They give freely of their time and effort for the benefit of the club. They have always been more than willing to do that something extra for each other. I am confident this will continue for whoever you elect as your next IRC President.

So, there it is, my hat is in the ring. You have a choice. Whether you vote for me or for my pretty opponent, we both urge you to cast your ballots for one of us.

-----Bill Endicott

Willis Conover (cont'd)

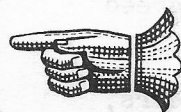
respond to without feeling ashamed. Jazz is a community effort. And all of a sudden that solo voice comes sailing through, a little bit impolite but free. It helps those overseas identify with America. But it's harmful to call jazz a *weapon* against communism. You'll drive listeners away. Jazz is its own propaganda."

Willis Conover finally met his audience face-to-face as MC of the American jazz concerts at the 1958 Brussels World's Fair. He toured Europe and the Middle East in 1959-60, lecturing at universities, USIS posts and local jazz clubs. In Tunis, French and Arabic newspapers featured stories of his visit. In Oslo, musicians came from all over Norway to greet him with an all-night jam session.. Yugoslav officials toasted Willis with *slivovitz* then took him to Lake Bled to plan their first jazz festival. Landing in Poland, he was swamped at the airport by several hundred fans and a 40-piece orchestra. Radio Warsaw broadcast an original composition, "*Welcome, Mr. Conover.*" Jazz groups assembled in Warsaw National Philharmonic Hall to

play two evening concerts in his honor.

As organizer with George Romanis of The Orchestra of New York and an MC of the Newport jazz festival, Conover is cool about his fantastic image abroad; he devotes all his attention to jazz itself, playing down his own role. Nevertheless, he cannot help being touched by the memory of the little man in Warsaw who rode the outside rear of a trolley to save fare, so he would be able to buy lunch for his favorite American.

Editor's Note: Angel Morales, who has the Conover connection, via his secretary Nita Brasch, sent in the above article, one of many published by several newspapers and reviews. By the way, Morales listens every night to Willis Conover and regularly tapes his Voice of America jazz hour. Currently he has 26 of 29 Duke Ellington programs Mr. Conover broadcast during March-April 1982. Any jazz and/or Ellington fan is welcome to them. Just send Angel C-90 cassettes for as many programs as you want (two 45-minute programs per cassette.)



WILLIS CONOVER

CREATIVE LIBRARY

Thomas Sokerka, Sr., #2235, Mahopac, N.Y., sent in two 7" reels of country music he recorded at Lombardi's Dugout in Mahopac.

- CR-99. Cherokee and Buckshot. 3-3/4
CR-100. Jay Unger and Lyn Hardy, and Rich Mar and his Crew. 3-3/4

---Bill Cutshaw, Creative Librarian

ELECTION, 1983

Although the election of IRC officers for the 1983/84 term, will not be until January, we are enclosing ballots with this issue of Tape Squeal to give our overseas members ample time to return them.

Other than a show of support, an election doesn't amount to much if there is only one candidate for each office. Since so few people are willing to serve as officers, the last several elections have had only one candidate for each office, and that is still true this time for the offices of Treasurer and Secretary.

However, we do have two candidates for President, Doris Oliver and Bill Endicott. We were unable to find anyone who was willing to serve as Vice President, so Doris and Bill have both agreed that whoever is not elected as President, will serve as Vice President.

The IRC constitution, as amended, provides that officers are to be elected for a two year term, and can serve for no more than two, two year terms at one time. Our Treasurer, John Oliver, is now in the second year of his first two years, and has agreed to serve for another two years.

Bill Davies was Secretary for four years, after which his wife, Eleanor, was elected for two years, with her term expiring this year. Bill has agreed to take the job back for the next two years, and Eleanor is more than willing to let him, to get him out from under foot, so unless nobody votes for him, or for John, it looks like they will be our Secretary and Treasurer for the next two years.

Anyway, you do have a choice for President, and you can write in your choice for any office, so please take a couple of minutes to vote, and mail the ballot to:

The Indiana Recording Club
1729 E. 77th St.,
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240

And may the best man, or woman, win!

JAZZ ALIVE

Many people like jazz, but are never certain when they can hear good jazz on the radio. BILL BENNETT sent in a listing for "Jazz Alive," a jazz program on PBS radio, listing the programs for the summer. Those for the next two months are reproduced here for your listening pleasure.

AUGUST

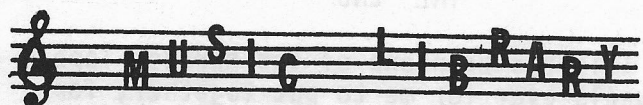
- 15th: '81 Chicago Jazz Festival, II:
JIMMY SMITH JAM SESSION--
EDDIE HARRIS QUINTET
- 22nd: '81 Chicago Jazz Festival, III:
TRIBUTE TO COUNT BASIE
- 29th: Montreux '81--Guitar Summit:
LARRY CORYELL--RAPHAEL FAYS--
PHILIP CATHERINE--TOQUINHO

SEPTEMBER

- 5th: Blues at Monterey '81:
JOHN LEE HOOKER--ETTA JAMES--
JAMES COTTON
- 12th: Tenor Giants:
LEW TABACKIN TRIO--WARNE MARSH/
RED MITCHELL DUO
- 19th: Salsa Meets Jazz: RAY BARRETTO--
CONJUNTO LIBRE--HECTOR LAVOE--
INTERAMERICAN JAZZ QUINTET
- 26th: Montreux '81: McCOY TYNER--
CHICO FREEMAN--ARTHUR BLYTHE

If you don't know your local PBS stations, perhaps your local library will be able to help, or one of the local private stations. If you still cannot find it, contact

National Public Radio
2025 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20036



We now have over 500 reels and 170 cassettes in the Music Library, thanks to 15 reels and 4 cassettes which were donated to the library last month. *Larry Koewler, #1868*, known to his taping friends as "Looney Larry", sent in twelve 5" reels of stereo music:

- #489. Danny Davis & The Nashville Brass, "How I Love the Old Songs" and "Live in Vegas. 3-3/4 ips.
- #490 Barbershop Chorus Winners #1. 3-3/4
- #491. Barbershop Chorus Winners #2. "
- #492. Dutch Swing College Band #1. "
- #493. Dutch Swing College Band #2. "
- #494. Dutch Swing College Band #3. "
- #495. Dutch Swing College Band #4. "
- #496. Dutch Swing College Band #5. "
- #497. Dutch Swing College Band #6. "
- #498. Dutch Swing College Band #7. "
- #499. Dutch Swing College Band #8. "
- #500. Dutch Swing College Band #9. "

If you've been wondering how to dress up those beat-up old tape boxes in your library, it might be worth ordering a couple of these reels just to see how Larry customized the boxes.

The next two reels were donated by *James McFarlane, Jr., #1105*.

- #501. Four Hours of Benny Goodman. From 78's & 45's. 7". 3-3/4. Mono.
- #502. Texaco Star Theater with Benny Goodman. 7". 3-3/4. Mono. This reel also includes a Benny Goodman direct to disc record in stereo.

The last reel, together with a matching cassette, was donated by our keeper of the purse strings, *John Oliver, #1337*.

- #503. A Lyn Larsen Concert and That Certain Feeling. 5". 3-3/4. Stereo.

Lyn Larsen is the organist at the Organ Stop Restaurant in Phoenix. Side 1 of this tape was played on a 34 rank Wurlitzer pipe organ built in 1928 in the Fisher Theater, Detroit. It is now in the Senate Theater and owned by the Detroit Organ Club. Side 2 was played on a 28 rank organ in a private residence in Washington, D.C.

John Etter, #2223, sent in three cassettes:

- C-167. 24 of the World's Greatest Polkas by Lawrence Welk & Myron Floren. A pre-recorded cassette. Dolby.
- C-168. Bing and the Andrews Sisters, and Tennessee Ernie Ford Favorites.
- C-169. Red Foley Favorites.
- C-170. Lyn Larsen Concert. Same as #503. Dolby.

---Bill Davies, Music Librarian.

ACTIVE SENIORS

Every now and then we get letters from folks about the articles in Tape Squeal. This last month we were flooded! Many have taken exception to the portrayal of Myron Jones's tapespondents as "isolated," "bleak," and having lives "not worth living."

Myron tells me that the article was written after minimal research by the editor of the newspaper (she even got the name of the Recording Club wrong) and that there are several inconsistencies in it, but that the core of the story--a senior citizen who uses his tape recorder for fun and enjoyment for himself and others--is true.

Two of the ladies mentioned in the article are current IRC members and the third is a former member. They would like for everyone to know that they are far from the despondent beings presented in that article. They are active both at home and with volunteer work.

Julie Holmes says that if working for Meals-on-Wheels, visiting nursing homes, calling regularly on a Phone Reassurance program, doing church work, crafts, and taping, as well as occasionally getting some housework done is "a sorrowful state," she hopes others will join it, for the world needs more volunteers.

Those who would like to write directly to the author of the article can do so at the following address:

Carrie Young
"Conquest"
44844 Michigan Avenue
Canton Township
Michigan 48188

Keep caring! Love ya all.

Sharon

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Regularly scheduled meetings of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB are held on the third Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm in the basement meeting room of the Leppert & Copeland Mortuary (740 E. 86th Street) in INDIANAPOLIS. *GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!!*

AUGUST 15TH

There will be a SALE at the meeting place! Old records, tape, and pre-recorded tapes will be available for members (and guests) to purchase. Be certain to come early to get the best selection.

SEPTEMBER 19TH

OCTOBER 17TH

There Will be meetings both of these months, but final arrangements have not been completed by press time. Stay tuned to this track next month for the particulars, and make plans to be at the Mortuary--alive--on Sept. 19 and Oct. 17.

Anyone in the Indianapolis area who would be interested in a no-pay, moderate-stress, high-satisfaction position as the next editor, contact DENNIS BURCHER or BILL DAVIES, for neither seems anxious to stretch an interim-editor position into a full-time one.

MAILING LABELS

two color with IRC logo

Reel size: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cassette size: 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 4

Price - \$1.75/100 - either size

Order from: VERN DAVIS

8805 Madison, #301A

Indianapolis, IN. 46227

When ordering, please specify size.

THE END

This has been one of the hardest Tape Squeals ever for me to put together, for it will be my last. I say that with very mixed emotions, for for three years I have labored for hours at the first of the month to produce an acceptable newsletter, and now I won't be meeting deadlines any more.

The reason for my stepping aside is quite simple: TIME. Or rather, the lack of it. For the entire three years I have been working full time, attending college full time, and attempting to be both mother and father to my two children. Time has run out.

I find I am spending less time at those things which are most important to me, so whatever can be done by others must be turned over to them. I gain more time for family and studies, but I lose the satisfaction that comes from having finished a newsletter and knowing it will be circulated around the world.

My prayer for each of you is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow:

May you rest assured of the Presence of God in your life;

May you find the inner peace that comes from walking with Someone Greater than yourself;

May you express the Love of God in whatever way you choose to the fullest of your abilities;

And, may the peace and love in each of us spread to ensure Peace and Love throughout the World.

Love Always - Sharon

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

Sharon Moore, Editor

1729 East 77th Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

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